

Torrance Herald

VOLUME V, No. 7

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1917

5 Cents Per Copy; \$1.50 Per Year

TORRANCE'S FUTURE BRIGHT

J. S. TORRANCE, "THE FATHER OF TORRANCE," PAINTS A FORCEFUL AND GLOWING PICTURE OF OUR FUTURE AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET

The banquet given Monday evening was the most enthusiastic and significant in the history of the chamber. The meeting was vibrant with the spirit of progress and of bright faith in the great future of Torrance. The speakers were charged with messages of great meaning and significance to the residents of Torrance. No one could hear J. S. Torrance, the "father of Torrance," speak, as one who largely made its history, of its origin and prospects, without having an undying confidence in the glorious destiny of our city. Professor Elson's talk set a new and great goal for the future of our schools, and Rev. Mr. Hedley, the "fighting Methodist preacher of Gardena," stirred us with a talk on patriotism.

George Proctor, president of the chamber and toastmaster of the evening, introduced the various speakers most happily and kept things moving smoothly and pleasantly.

Busch's orchestra furnished the music and helped much to make the meeting it tang and zest.

The banquet was served at the Cafe Ironton and nearly a hundred guests were crowded into the dining hall. It was with difficulty that room was found for all. The long lunch counter had to be utilized to make room for the great gathering. Chef Siddall put on course after course of most delicious viands that were equal to any dollar a plate affair. Following is the menu:

- Consomme a l'Anglaise
- Waldorf Salad
- Chicken Halibut a la Maitre d'Hotel
- Fillet de Mignon, Mushroom Sauce
- Au Gratin Potatoes, Stewed Corn
- Sliced Peaches, Lady Fingers
- Demi-Tasse

After the demi-tasse the toastmaster spoke briefly of the accomplishments of the new chamber—the Western avenue project, the finest new school house in Southern California, etc.—and the need of such a body with a large and vigorous membership to obtain needed things for the city and assist other civic bodies in their progress work. Judge Post was called upon and livened up the gathering with a number of good jokes and stories, some of local application. He spoke of the chamber and how that body had helped him in his work for the city and that he had done much through them much otherwise impossible.

Torrance Gives Heart to Heart Talk

J. S. Torrance was introduced by the toastmaster as the "father of our city." He protested his ability as a speaker and then delivered a talk that was heard with rapt attention by everyone present as a message from a man of intimate acquaintance with the facts and who spoke with authority and full knowledge.

"I am very glad to be with you this evening. I have had as varied a business and other experience as any man in the room, but I have not learned to make a speech, to think quickly on my feet.

"You will be interested in learning the beginning of Torrance. A good many years ago the Union Oil Co. was operating the Union Tool Co. in a small way at Santa Paula. Edward Double took charge of the small plant employing twenty men and soon extended its usefulness so that the plant was too limited. It was moved to Los Angeles where it soon began to take on considerable magnitude. It grew so large that more room was needed. The price of adjoining land necessary for growth was so great, \$100,000 per acre, that we couldn't stand it and decided to cast about for a location outside of Los Angeles for expansion.

"Out of that necessity grew the present city of Torrance. We bought 3500 acres—six or eight of us associated—and made up our minds to start an industrial city. It was not so much a money matter but rather what good we could do. We were all prosperous and believed we should use our wealth to the benefit of all.

"We employed the most eminent landscape architect. The complete plans cost \$10,000. We started with the most brilliant prospects and future hopes, but started one year too late—1913 was a panic year and there has been nothing doing in real estate and now we are bucking against a dry season.

"We had a contract with the Pacific Electric Railway Co. for their great shops to be completed and in operation by July, 1915, but panic conditions interrupted. Perhaps our material prosperity will be all the greater. They were to have expended \$200,000. President Shoup informs me that they have appropriated \$1,250,000 for the purpose of building shops and will employ not less than 1000 and up to 2000 men. They will build freight cars for the Southern Pacific as well as trolley cars for themselves. It will be a permanent thing and bring great prosperity.

"We had a contract with the Llewellyns to be in operation by July 1, 1914. The bond house in charge of financing the proposition found itself unable to dispose of the stock and operations were postponed. The original intentions were to move the plant here. Instead they have built the rolling mills here and it is only the beginning. Great blast furnaces, five times as large as the present enterprise, will come into being.

Cotton Factory

Before the war, Mr. Torrance stated, there had been excellent prospects of securing a large cotton factory, but machinery prices mounted up so after the opening of the war that the promoters feared their plant would cost so much they could not compete with plants built before the war, after the war ended. A year ago he spent considerable time in the South to induce plants to come here, but the same fear deterred them, but as a matter of fact it would have been one of the most profitable of enterprises, prices mounting ever higher on cotton goods.

"But the prospects were still good. Great industries operate in centers. One mill would be the precursor to many of them. The benefit to all Southern California of such a plant would be very great.

"There were a number of enterprises looking for location, to which the declaration of war put a stop. I know of several great enterprises that will locate here as soon as conditions permit.

"Conditions here are particularly favorable climatically, increasing greatly the efficiency of labor.

"There are three or four great enterprises in prospect. Another big glass factory is in sight.

"Within five years there will be a dozen very large enterprises start here.

"We had an idea that the athletic club would one day be an important factor. Men need diversion and entertainment. We saved considerable ground for a large park just beyond the viaduct, which in ten to twenty years will be a beautiful landscape park, with a large clubhouse, plunge, tennis and handball courts, and all the things belonging to a modern club.

the green stuff they can use, and it is a patriotic thing to do.

"There is an enterprise in prospect that means more than all the others. It will employ upwards of 5,000 men, and is so gigantic that I almost tremble to think of it. It will mean more to Torrance and Southern California than any enterprise started on the Pacific Coast since the days of '49."

Professor Elson

Professor Elson was introduced as the principal of one of the best little schools in Southern California.

Mr. Elson called attention to two or three tendencies in modern education. There are few things in the state's business we come so closely in contact with, yet know so little about. Centralization and modern methods have struck the schools. The school business requires just as red blood, as much brains, as any other business. There are three things we school people must do.

First, all the state's money for all the people of the state. Make education of use to all.

Second, social expediency. The greatest good for the greatest number is what we have to think of. No one can expect to superimpose his own little ideas on all others. Everything must be considered from the point of view of the best benefits to the greatest number.

Third, consolidation is in the air. It is the greatest movement today. Centralizing and co-ordination processes mean that there will be more big schools instead of a lot of small ones, and this means better, bigger teachers, better school buildings, better equipment, better work.

Our school is moving along toward the greater things of modern education—night school, vocational education and continuation work.

The school belongs to the community and is part of the community. The school should be the center of town life, the community center. You will come to us and demand that we supply you with the things you need. There will be less attention given to letters, and more to the things of life. The interests of the community, the shops and the schools will become more closely identified.

Looking forward to the things coming, we should make such a big noise that when they are looking for a location for the great school they can see only Torrance.

Rev. Hedley On Patriotism

Rev. John Hedley gave an intensely stirring patriotic address that met with an enthusiastic reception. It was filled with witty references and brimming over with life and enthusiasm and the vigor of red blood, the speech of a man who has done things and is still doing them.

"For a man who looks so much like a bishop," he said of Mr. Torrance, "he needs to behave himself."

He urged the need of virtue support of school and church, and of recreation and entertainment.

For sixteen years Rev. Hedley was a missionary in China, and had a helping hand in the making of the new republic. It was there he learned of the true meaning of Prussianism, and that had made him from the first strongly pro-ally. Feb. 12, 1912, witnessed the birth of the new republic, and it would never have been possible except for the great work of the sometimes contemned missionary.

Whatever may have been the origin of those present, they must forget all that today. Today we are all Americans. If a man is of German descent, if he is only loyal, don't hold it against him. Some of the finest men I have known were of German birth.

We are going to win, but win the sooner if every man here is as loyal to the flag as he says he is.

Thrill Stamps for Children

We couldn't do better to the kiddies than to give each one a thrill stamp and tell them to go ahead and fill the card.

Rosecrans On Farm Bureau

W. S. Rosecrans, secretary of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau gave a short talk on the Farm Bureau, and urged ranchers present to join. If enough members can be obtained in Torrance and Lomita, another local will be formed here. The great need is more food production, and the Farm Bureau is the one great agency to make this possible.

Buy a Thrift Card and help Uncle Sam.

Stieglitz Urges Thrift Stamp Buying

Stieglitz Urges Thrift Stamp Buying

Owing to the lateness of the hour, Rev. Stieglitz could say only a few words on the topic of "Thrift Stamps," but what he particularly urged was not only the buying of them, but that we stick to it, and keep buying. It is a small thing in itself, but if everyone will buy thrift stamps, and urge their children to do so, the sum total will run into the millions, and the government needs that money to win the war.

The meeting was the most successful ever held by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, not only in attendance, but in enthusiasm and in the importance of the talks made to the Chamber. It is a meeting that those present will refer back to for years as one of great moment. To President George Proctor and members of the Chamber who were active in getting up the banquet, to Hurum E. Reeve, who started the plan and helped to make it a success, greatest credit is due for their public spirit and untiring efforts for the upbuilding of Torrance.

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Bible school, 10 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.

Sunday being the last day of the Cobb-Dowling stereopticon lectures, there will be meetings both in the afternoon at 2:30 p. m. and in the evening at 6:30 p. m. As large numbers are attending these lectures, friends are urged to come early so as to secure a seat.

In addition to the stereopticon views Mr. Cobb will use costumes and many curios to illustrate certain Bible truths.

RED CROSS ACTIVITIES

There was a meeting of the Torrance Red Cross Tuesday evening, and plans were made for various affairs to help the work along.

Mrs. Charles Lyons will give an afternoon tea for the benefit of the Red Cross at the Myrtle Apartments, Tuesday, the 19th. Everybody will be welcome.

The room formerly occupied by the Torrance Athletic Club has been donated for the use of the Red Cross by the Dominguez Land Corporation, and hereafter all the work will be done here, except the knitting. The knitting will still be handled from the old headquarters, the home of Mrs. Henderson.

It is proposed to give a number of card parties in the near future. Their dates and places will be announced.

FIRM LINE DRAWN UPON DISLOYALTY

Justice L. Hunter of Torrance has set a mark for all Southern California magistrates in fixing the line of demarcation between loyalty and disloyalty. In Tuesday's hearing of Herman McKinga and Ed Granau, two of the six employees of the Union Tool Company accused of disloyal remarks and disloyal attitude, the justice further amplified his views. Last night Judge Hunter said:

"He that is not for Me is against Me," said the Christ. So might the United States Government properly reiterate today. I tried to make it plain to the three men whom I sentenced Monday to pay fines and serve jail sentences that if they did not take the militant and aggressive attitude of loyal and patriotic citizens, they were very liable to be suspected of being hostile and antagonistic. My view is that the real patriot will go out of his way these days to make it known to all men that he is for the United States, first, last, and all the time."

The Union Tool Company, which employs 70 men at Torrance, paid the fines of the men convicted Monday, and will reinstate them in service today, as they are good workmen and believed to be good Americans at heart.

However, it is believed that the arrests and arraignments will have a salutary effect on hundreds of others.

The Torrance Herald has just issued a new series of Torrance post cards to boost for the town and induce others to come here.

- 1—Come to Sunshine Land.
- 2—Winter Pleasures of Southern California.

They are on sale at the Herald office and at the Dolly Drug Co. Send a few to Eastern friends.

Buy a Thrift Card and help Uncle Sam.

PLANT POTATOES ON VAGANT LOTS—LAND AND WATER FREE

We have just got in a fine shipment of northern grown Irish Rose potatoes in anticipation of the Dominguez Land Corporation free land, free water offer. Plant good seed if you want a good crop.

THE TORRANCE HARDWARE CO.

HURUM E. REEVE, Proprietor

CONTRACT FOR NEW EVANGELICAL CHURCH, COSTING \$6400 EXCLUSIVE OF FURNISHINGS, TO BE COMPLETED BY MAY 15, LET TO CHARLES W. WALKER

The contract has been let to Charles W. Walker for the erection of the proposed new Evangelical Church, upon which Rev. Stieglitz, in particular, has been working so untiringly and successfully for some months past.

The structure is to be of brick, with red rubble brick finish, 60 feet square. The main auditorium will be octagonal in shape, about 38 feet in diameter, from which will open Sunday school classrooms. There will also be a social room in the basement.

The building will harmonize with the architecture of Torrance buildings, rather than with the usual steeple church. The plans were drawn by Mr. Walker, and met with the approval of the board.

Ground for the church will be broken immediately, and the structure is to be completed by the 15th of May. It is to cost \$6500, without the furnishings.

FOURTH DISTRICT CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The fourth district chambers of commerce met Thursday evening, February 14 at Lomia. Present were C. A. Paxman and Hurum E. Reeve, Torrance; W. S. Rosecrans and R. Robertson, Gardena; M. F. Shepherd and T. W. Murray, Moneta; J. A. Smith and Dan Towne, Lomita. Redondo and Hermosa were not present. Dan Towne, George Proctor and representatives of Our Liberty Boys' club were also present.

The road committee reported work going ahead on the Torrance-Lomita road and that it would be completed in two weeks. Construction is of decomposed granite, rock and oil.

\$125 was reported in the bank, surplus of the Yuletide fund and this was ordered paid to the Our Liberty Boys' club for comfort kits. There are also a number of checks made out to soldier boys whose addresses are not known.

The attention of Lomita people was called to the bond election March 12, for the Lomita-San Pedro road. This will be of great benefit to this section and the people are urged to vote for it.

The next meeting is the date for the quarterly banquet and the delegates from Torrance extended an invitation to come there, which was accepted. The banquet will be held Thursday evening, March 12th. The committee in charge: Hurum E. Reeve, chairman; George Towne, M. F. Shepherd, Mr. Richardson, Chas. A. Pattee and R. Robertson.

PRO-GERMAN ARRESTS AT TORRANCE

An alleged attempt to spread pro-German propaganda in the war munitions plant of the Union Tool Works at Torrance was nipped when two special agents of the department of justice, armed with warrants, swooped down on the place and took six employees into custody.

Charges that the seven men had uttered disloyal remarks, had obstructed the sale of the Liberty Loan, had spread pro-German propaganda, and had caused much apprehension for the safety of the plant, were the basis of the legal action on which the warrants were issued.

Those Named
Robert Martin, John Wismer, Herman McKinza, Edward Groman, Gus Heinze, Roland McFarland and Charles F. Bolser were the men named in the warrants taken to the plant.

When the United States authorities announced they had the men in custody, Justice of the Peace J. L. Hunter of Torrance was summoned, and decided to hold court in the office of President Edward Double to give the men an immediate hearing.

Alleged Remarks
"I am for Germany." "I would die for Germany." "To hell with the Liberty Loan." "I would rather be executed than drafted," and a number of such remarks, are attributed to the men by the United States authorities.

Four of the six men recently arrested by federal operatives and accused of disloyal utterances and conduct at the Union Tool Company plant at Torrance appeared before Justice of the Peace J. Hunter Monday. Three were found guilty, and one, Robert Martin, was acquitted. John Wismer was sentenced to thirty days in jail, and sentence suspended during good behavior. Roland McFarland was fined \$5, and Charles F. Bolser \$50 and given a suspended sentence of sixty days.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Sunday school, 9:45; preaching, 11 a. m.; evening sermon 7:30. Prayer meeting Wednesday night at 7:30.

MORE SPURLIN BUNGALOWS UNDER WAY

Eight more bungalows are under way by Mr. Spurlin, and very likely more will be started by him when these are completed and rented.

Of the first sixteen recently completed, fourteen are now rented. The garages have just been completed, and the court is now taking on a very attractive appearance, with the grading completed and sidewalks in.

PROGRESS NOTES

J. H. Fess has moved the partition forward in his store, adding not only to the storage room, but also to the appearance of the store. Another addition in the way of Hooverizing is the installation of a paper-typing machine, gummed paper being used for wrapped bundles instead of string. Harry Paige has also installed one of these.

C. A. Paxman has installed a fine new electric sign at the Torrance Industrial Club.

If you are having trouble with your doorbell, see C. A. Paxman, at the Torrance Electric Shop, and he will tell you of a way to fix it so you will never have more bell trouble.

MACCABEES

The regular meeting of the Maccabees will be held at Mrs. Rubo's, on Andree street, Tuesday evening, the 19th.

AT WORK ON LOMITA ROAD

After almost three years of effort to get the road to Lomita improved, work has actually started. The teams have been at work grading, and it is hoped that work will not cease until the road has been put in first-class shape. It is not known how much work will be done, but now that a start has been made, no effort should be spared to keep the work going till all of Western avenue on both sides of Torrance is put in proper condition.

It is a shame that Torrance should be surrounded with roads in such condition as they are today. With heavy traffic out of here, we have about the worst roads in the county.

TORRANCE GARAGE PROGRESSIVE

The Torrance Garage has just been accepted as a Goodyear service station. The Goodyear Company is very particular about the selection of its service stations, and recently has withdrawn them from many garages in the city and elsewhere. It is thus a recognition of excellence.

Free air is now being given autos from the street, and a new Bowser five-gallon pump with overhead feed is being installed.

A full line of rent batteries is carried, and a regular battery-charging and ignition service is maintained.

RED CROSS NOTES

If there is anything in our window you can use you will help both yourself and the Red Cross by buying.

Have you an article in your home that you no longer need? If so, just give it to the Red Cross and we may be able to get something out of it. We can use old silver articles even if they are broken.

The Red Cross work concerns everybody. The Red Cross nurse or physician on duty recognizes neither friend nor foe. They are on the field to alleviate suffering, to help the wounded whether their own or of the enemy.

See Paxman if you want your home heated economically and in a most sanitary manner.